

Appl. No. 09/944,656
Amdt. Dated 08/06/2004
Reply to Office Action of July 14, 2004

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the outstanding Office Action, claims 1, 2 and 10 have been amended to correct the antecedent problems noted by the Examiner. In that regard, given the order and nature of the stated antecedent problem in claim 11, it is believed that the Examiner meant to refer to claim 1, in which the antecedent problem was noted and corrected herein. In addition, certain minor corrections have also been made to claim 1 and claim 11, and the phrase "the steps of" has been eliminated from both claims 10 and 11. Accordingly, it is believed that all claims in the case are now in condition for allowance.

Information Disclosure Statement

In reviewing the Office Action and file history, it has come to the attention of the undersigned that U.S. Patent No. 4,602,218, a copy of which was submitted by way of Information Disclosure Statement concurrently with the filing of the application, was incorrectly listed as U.S. Patent No. 4,602,215 on Form PTO/SB/06A. It is believed that by initialing all references on Form PTO/SB/06A, including U.S. Patent No. 4,602,215, the Examiner intended to confirm consideration of U.S. Patent No. 4,602,218 as supplied. However, Applicant hereby submits an AMENDED Form PTO/SB/06A and a further copy of U.S. Patent No. 4,602,218, and respectfully requests the Examiner initial the same as confirmation that U.S. Patent No. 4,602,218, and not U.S. Patent No. 4,602,215, has been considered.

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CONCLUSION

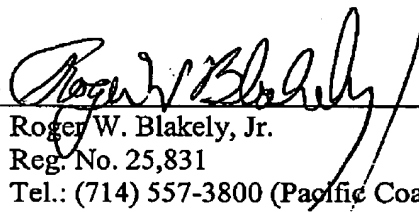
Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Dated: 08/06/2004

By



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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING/TRANSMISSION (37 CFR 1.8A)

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Jessica A. Clark

8/6/2004
Date